

Oakland University Senate Minutes

November 9, 2017

Members present: Aloï, Ball, Banes-Berceli, Baxa, Berven, D., Berven, K., Bowe, Chaney, Cheezum, Cheng, Corcoran, Corso, Craig, Debnath, Dereski, Didion, Doherty, Dulio, Edrisinha, Eis, Epstein, Estes, Giblin, Gooren, Herold, Hranchook, Jagtap, Knox, Latcha, Lauer, Law-Sullivan, Lentini, Long, Markel, Megee, Mishack, Mitchell, Mitton, Navin, Orzach, Parkash, Reger, Roth, Shablin, Shkoukani, Stone, Tracy, Van Til, Wallis, Weiter, Wells

Members absent: Arnold, Chamra, Cole, Dvir, Folberg, Guessous, Harbin, Insko, Mazzeo, Meehan, Schmitz

Provost Lentini called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M.

Summary of Information and Action Items

INFORMATION ITEMS

Akindi

Program modification to BS in Mechanical Engineering (SECS) approved by UCUI

Program modification to BS in Nursing (SON) approved by UCUI

Program modification to establish new Graduate Certificate in Lean Leadership (SEHS) approved by Grad Council

Addendum to Final Undergraduate and Graduate School Reports

Provost's Updates

ACTION ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS

Motion to recommend a revised University Mission statement

NEW BUSINESS

Procedural Motion to staff Senate Standing Committees

A. INFORMATION ITEMS

- Shaun Moore was present to explain that the Scantron sheets presently being used for exams at OU are going to be phased out in the future and replaced with the updated alternative 'Akindi'. He highlighted the ease of use, the changes and improvements that the new Akindi will provide. He pointed out that the new Akindi format uses regular paper and can be scanned with any scanner or iPhone. He said that faculty members should contact him at E-lis for further information.
- Mr. Schall was present to explain the program modification to the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in the Department of Mechanical Engineering in the School of Engineering and Computer Science, which will add three Specializations in Automotive Engineering, Manufacturing, and Energy. Students will take a set of courses and be able to put these specializations on their transcripts and résumés. He noted that students will have to take one extra course in order to complete the program.

- Ms. Tieppo was present to explain the program modification to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing in the School of Nursing. She said they have done a complete overhaul of all of their courses because their curriculum had not been reviewed in twenty years and it needed to be updated. She said all of the courses for the B.S. in Nursing will be replaced with new courses. Ms. Eis stated that the forms used for program modifications are problematic because she was not able to find everything she needed to review this program modification, and so she requested that the forms be fixed so that all the information can be fit on the form.
- Ms. Flumerfelt was present to explain the program modification to establish a new Graduate Certificate in Lean Leadership in the Department of Organizational Leadership in the School of Education and Human Services. She said that this program is interdisciplinary, and this kind of certificate is in high demand. She said it will be unique because there are very few Lean Leadership programs. It will be marketed both to organizations and to individuals, and the launch date is set for Fall 2018.
- Provost Updates: Provost Lentini noted that the new Tax Code being discussed could affect Oakland University, and he cited as an example the issue of tuition waivers. He recommended keeping an eye on what is going on with the tax code discussions.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Motion from the Steering Committee to recommend a revised University Mission.

MOVED that the Senate recommend to the President and the Board of Trustees the approval of a revised Oakland University Mission. (second reading)

Mr. Lentini opened up the discussion on the motion, reminding the Senate members that the mission statement being put forward for approval was the following:

“Oakland University is a public, doctoral institution that cultivates the full potential of a diverse and inclusive community. We impact Michigan and the world through education, research, scholarship, and creative activity.”

Mr. Shkoukani said that the Student Congress had come up with a variation on this statement. After further discussion, the following friendly amendment was made, to re-arrange the wording as follows:

“Oakland University cultivates the full potential of a diverse and inclusive community. As a public doctoral research institution, we impact Michigan and the world through education, research, scholarship, and creative activity”. (Stone, Shkoukani)

This amendment was not approved (20 yes, 27 no, no abstentions).

Returning to the motion, an amendment was proposed to alter the wording as follows:

“Oakland University cultivates the full potential of a diverse and inclusive community. As a public doctoral institution, we impact Michigan and the world through education, research, scholarship, and creative activity.” (Rigstad, Shablin)

This amendment was approved (27 yes, 20 no, no abstentions).

The original motion was then approved (30 yes, 18 no).

Next, Lena Mischak stated that she wanted the Student Congress proposal to be considered. This version was as follows:

“Oakland University is a diverse and inclusive community focused on developing tomorrow’s leaders today by fostering student success through research, scholarship and service.”

She moved that the mission statement be amended by substituting this version. (Mischak, Shkoukani).

The motion failed (3 yes, the rest voted no).

Returning to the original motion, Mr. Rigstad moved to amend as follows:

“Oakland University cultivates the full potential of a diverse and inclusive community. As a public undergraduate and doctoral institution, we impact Michigan and the world through education, research, scholarship, and creative activity.” (Rigstad, Law-Sullivan)

The motion failed (2 yes, the rest voted no).

The Provost called for a vote on the original amended motion:

“Oakland University cultivates the full potential of a diverse and inclusive community. As a public doctoral institution, we impact Michigan and the world through education, research, scholarship, and creative activity.”

The motion passed unanimously.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Procedural motion to staff Senate Standing Committees

MOVED that the person listed by appointed to the committee or position designated. (Eis, Rigstad)

Teaching and Learning

Austin Murphy (SBA) Winter 2018, replacing Kasaundra Tomlin (SBA) 2015-2018 for her sabbatical. The motion passed unanimously.

D. GOOD AND WELFARE

Sumi Dinda spoke about the shortage of classroom space and the problem of trying to schedule nested modules on Mondays and Wednesdays. He said if there is a change like this, there should be notification. Mr. Shablin responded that the nested scenario was approved in 2007, not recently, and was not a registrar decision. He said that any change to the modules would need to go through the Senate Process and be approved. Ms. Didion said we need to consider non-traditional students who work and cannot come to class three days a week. The Monday/Wednesday modules are good for them, but with the present system, it is difficult to schedule classes now. Provost Lentini suggested that Mr. Dinda speak to his Dean about this scheduling problem, and added that he would like to know more about this issue as it comes to an appropriate resolution.

E. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dikka Berven (Senate secretary)